



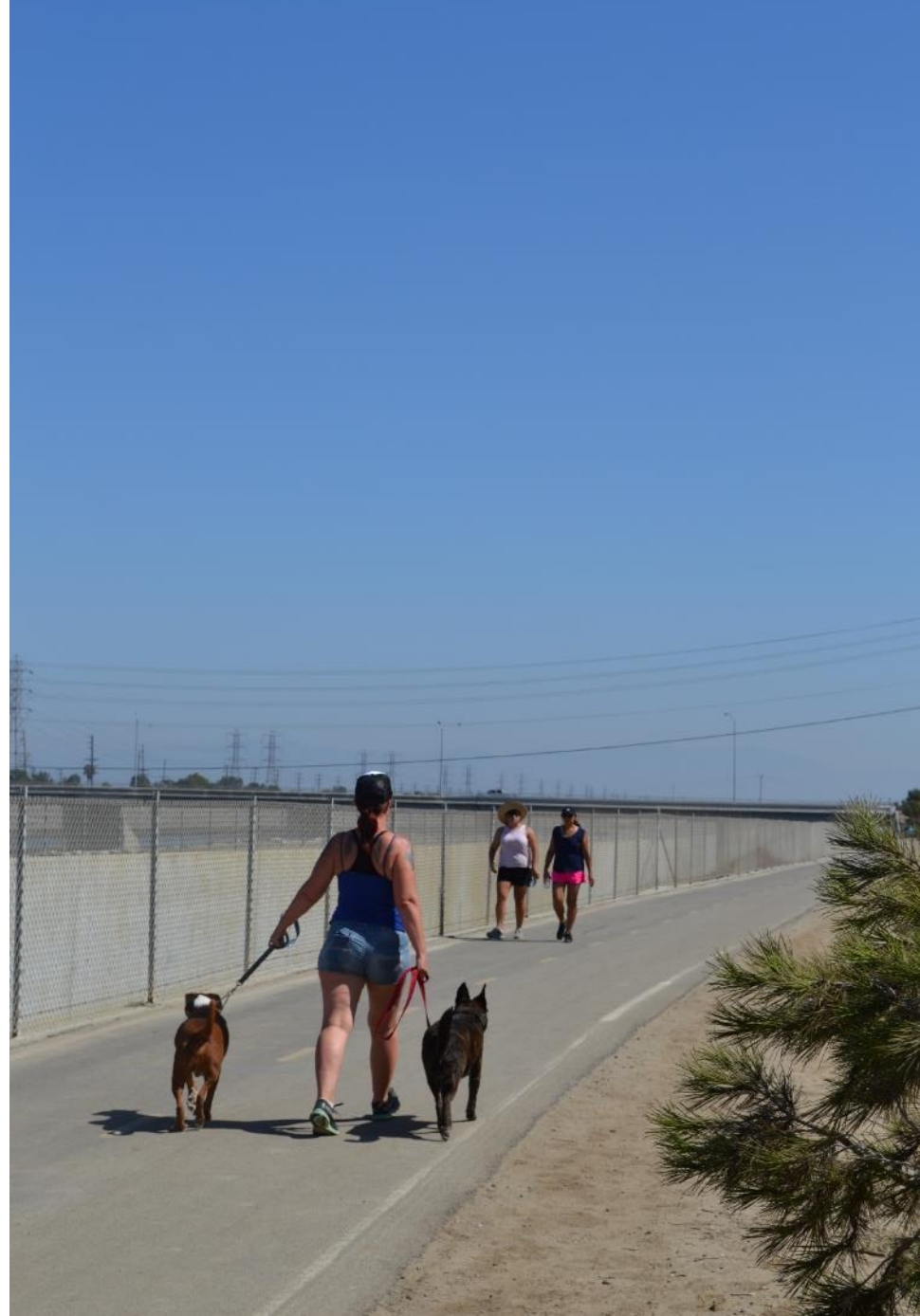
Santa Ana River Parkway

a case study of multijurisdictional trail planning

April 24, 2019

Introductions

- **Greg Gauthier**
Coastal Conservancy
- **Patricia Lock Dawson**
PLD Consulting
- **C.C. LaGrange**
PlaceWorks





PARKWAY & OPEN SPACE PLAN


Expanding the River's Reach

Santa Ana River Parkway

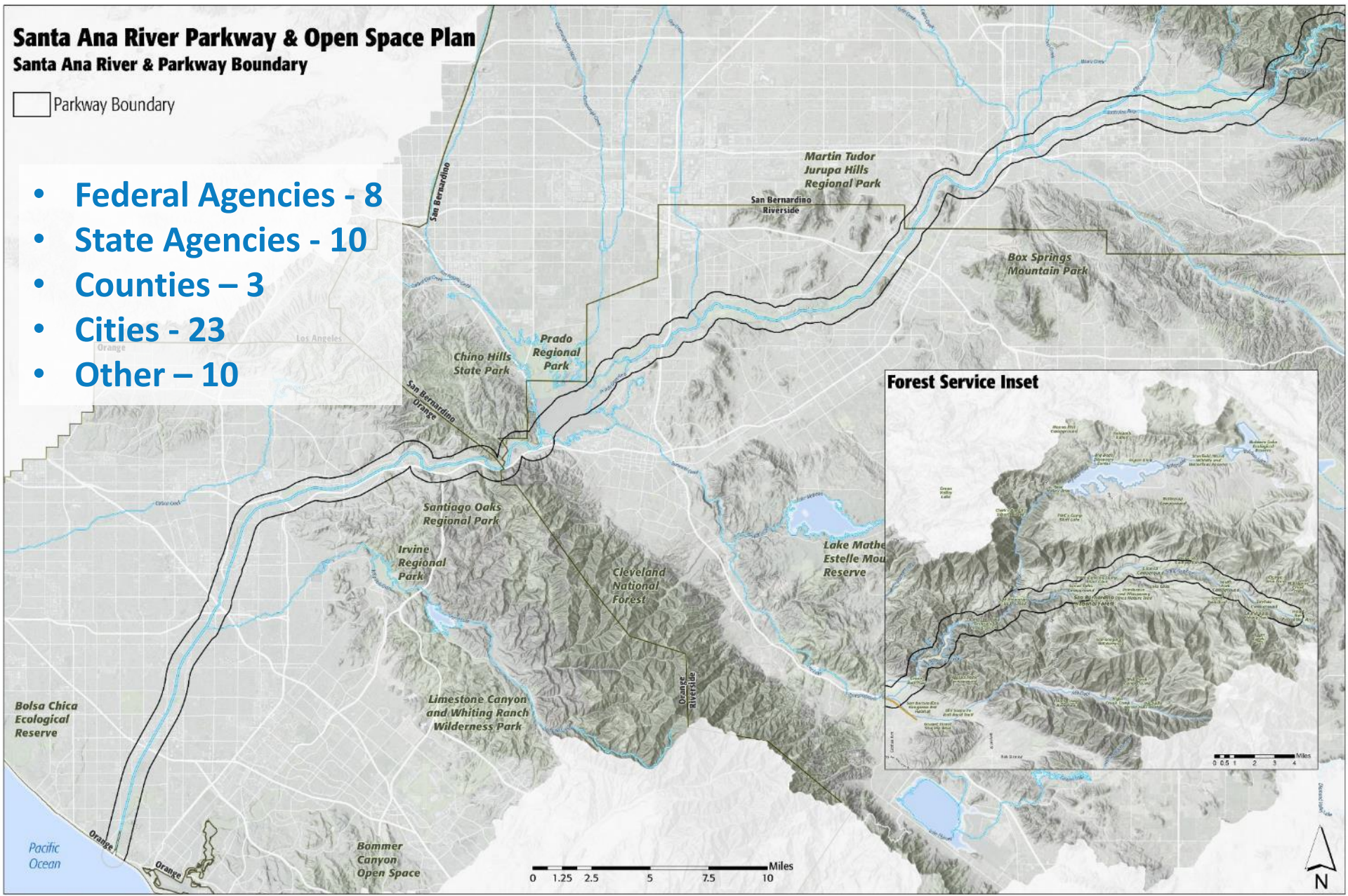
a case study of multi-jurisdictional trail planning

1. Background
2. Planning Process
3. Tools for Collaboration
4. Current Status

Santa Ana River Parkway & Open Space Plan
Santa Ana River & Parkway Boundary

 Parkway Boundary

- **Federal Agencies - 8**
- **State Agencies - 10**
- **Counties – 3**
- **Cities - 23**
- **Other – 10**



BACKGROUND

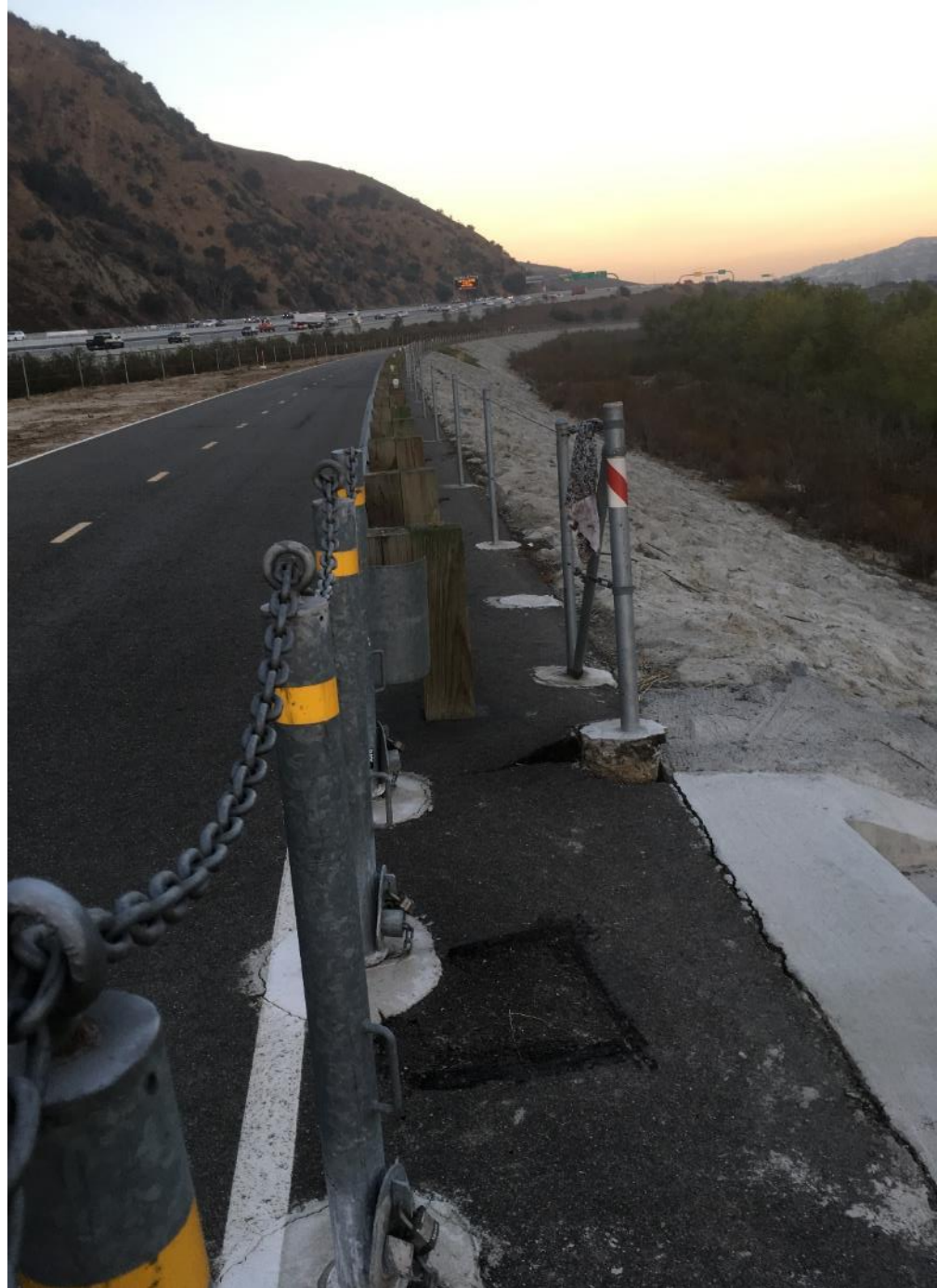
Partners include...



- Parks Departments from each county
- Transportation agencies from each county
- Flood Control agencies from each county
- 23 cities

BACKGROUND

- **1950s** — initial efforts to create a trail along the river
- **1977** - Portions of the trail received National Recreational Trail status
- **1991** - Santa Ana River Corridor Trails System Master Plan
- **2006** — Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway Partnership
- **2014** — Santa Ana River Conservancy Program (SARCON)



2003





2006 Call to Action By Local Leaders: The Trail and Parkway Partnership is Born

BACKGROUND

How and Why Did it Work?

MOU created an effective structure

- Policy Advisory Group
(Elected Officials)
- Technical Advisory Group
(Managers)

Primary Function:
To Build and Manage
the Trail and Parkway



BACKGROUND



PARKWAY & OPEN SPACE PLAN

Expanding the River's Reach

Goals of the Santa Ana River Parkway & Open Space Plan:

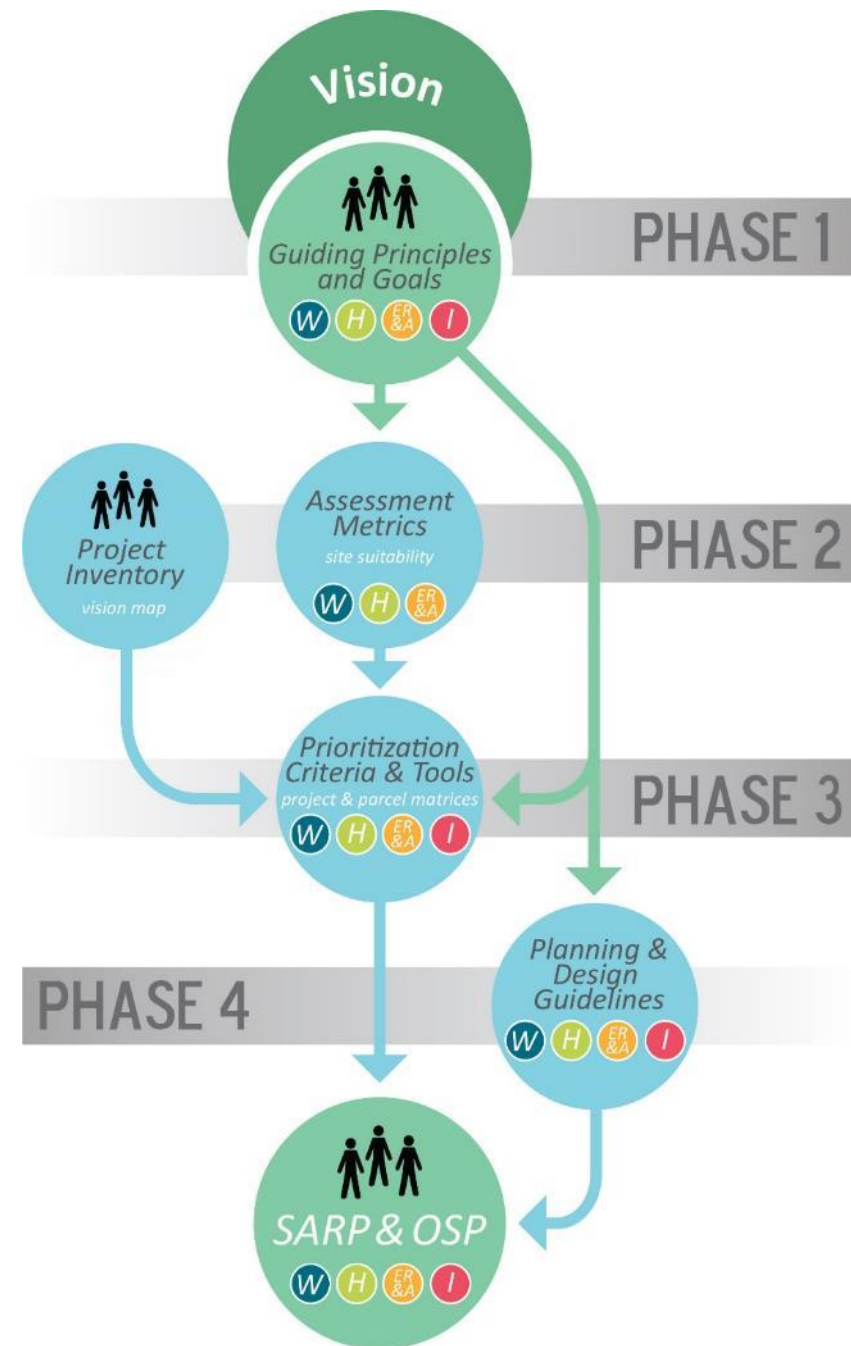
- Develop a shared vision for the Santa Ana River Parkway
- Create a set of tools for prioritizing projects in the Parkway
- Generate an initial list of prioritized projects in the Parkway



PLANNING PROCESS

Four Phases

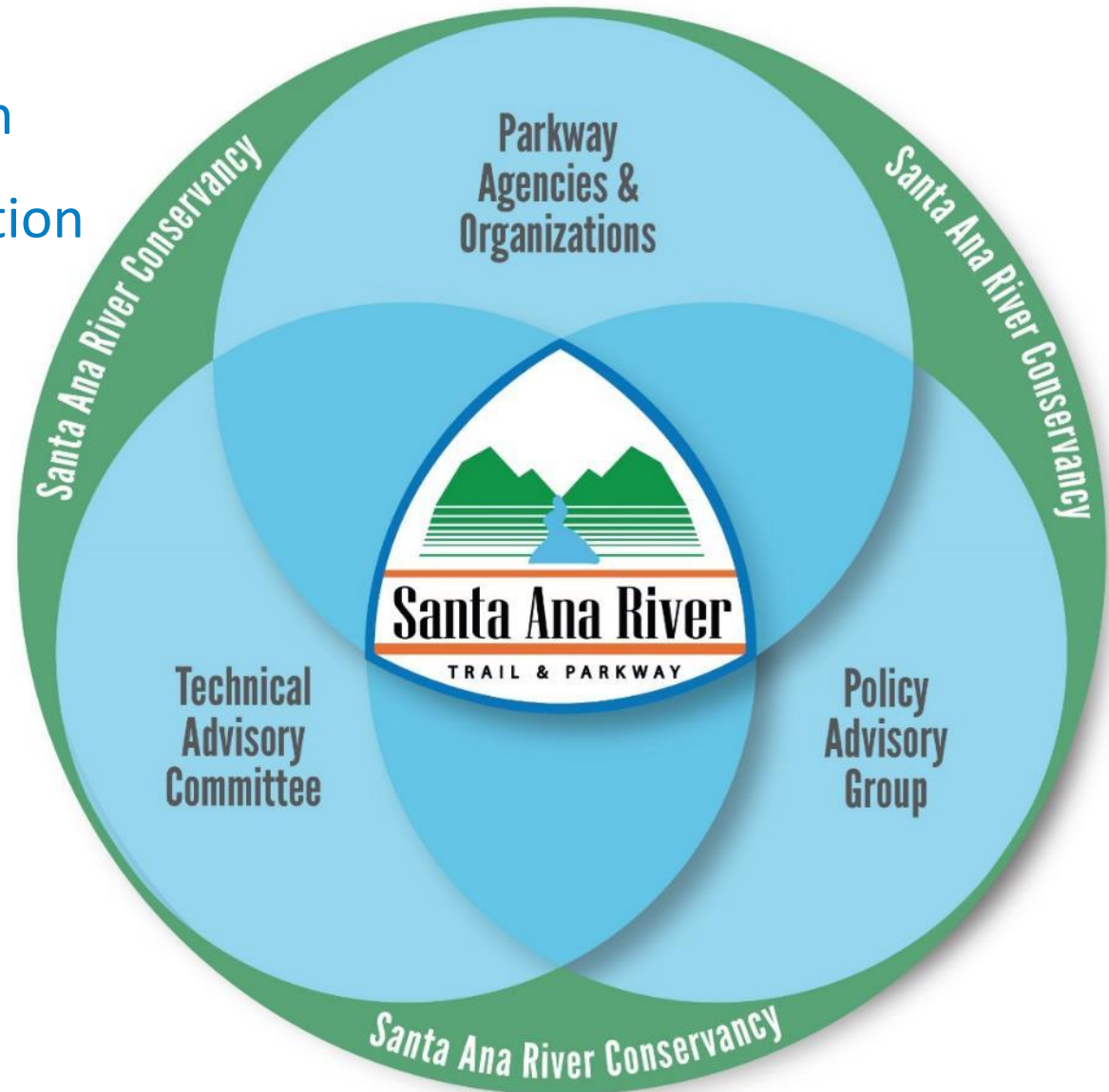
1. Vision, Guiding Principles, and Goals
2. Project Inventory and Project Assessment Metrics
3. Project Prioritization Criteria and Tools
4. Planning & Design Guidelines



PLANNING PROCESS

Role of SARCON

- Facilitate collaboration
- Facilitate implementation
- Facilitate funding

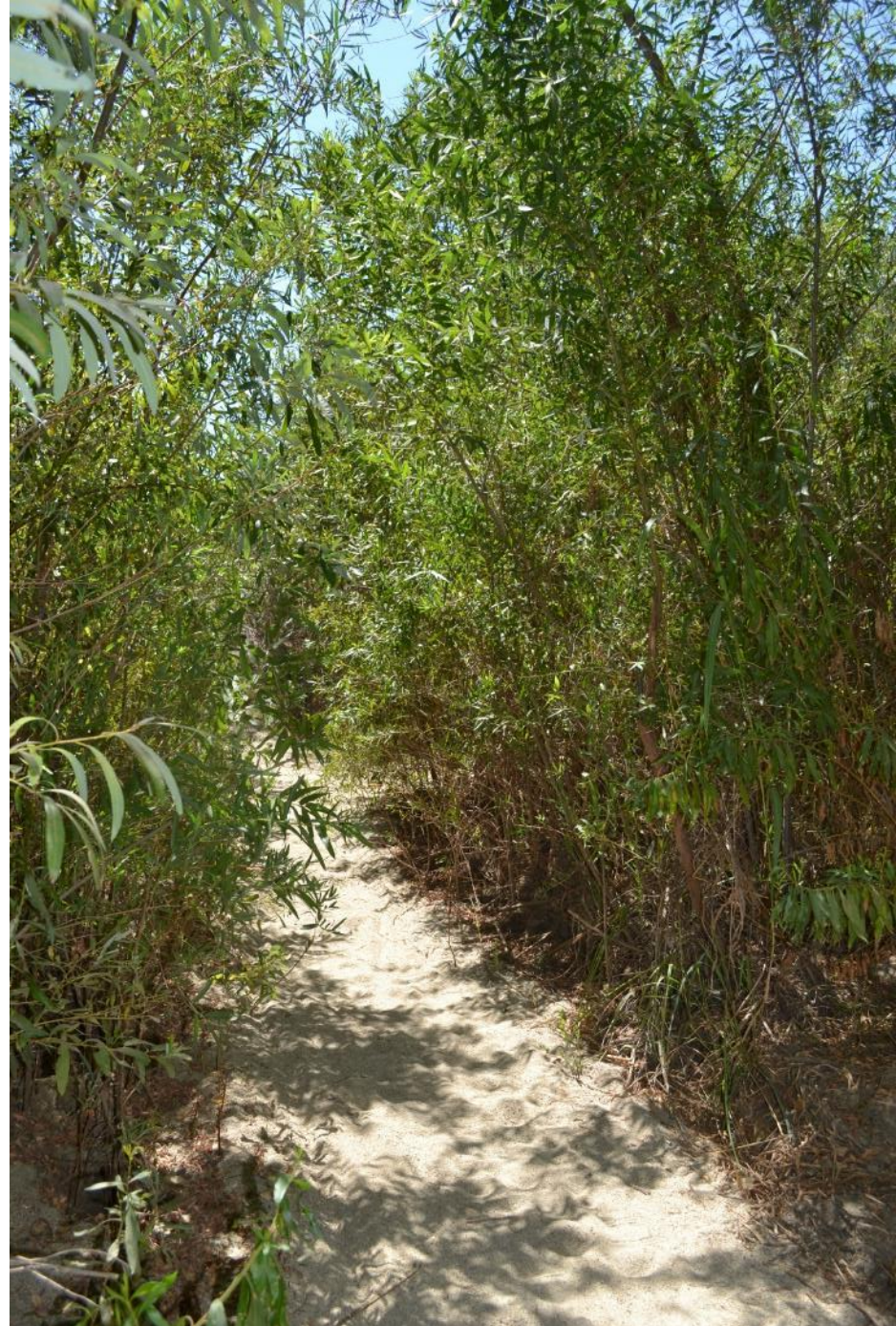


Challenges

- Sheer number of jurisdictions involved
- Many competing priorities

Opportunities

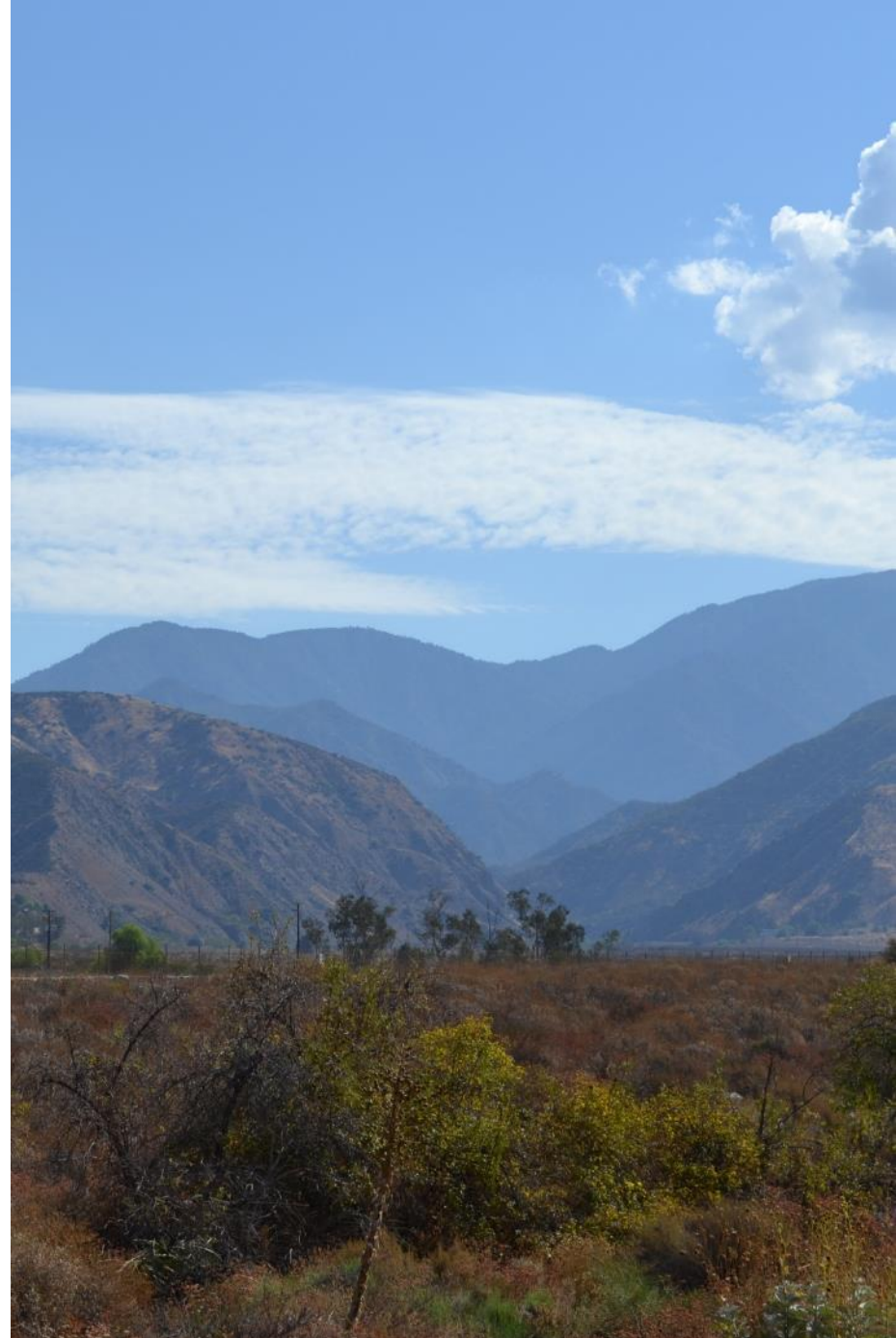
- Shared desire for improvement
- History of collaboration between some jurisdictions



TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Strategies to encourage collaboration

- Policy Advisory Group
- Technical Advisory Committee
- Online Inventory Portal
- Public Outreach
- Vision & Guiding Principles
- Project Prioritization Tool



TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Policy Advisory Group

- Existing Group
- History of Collaboration

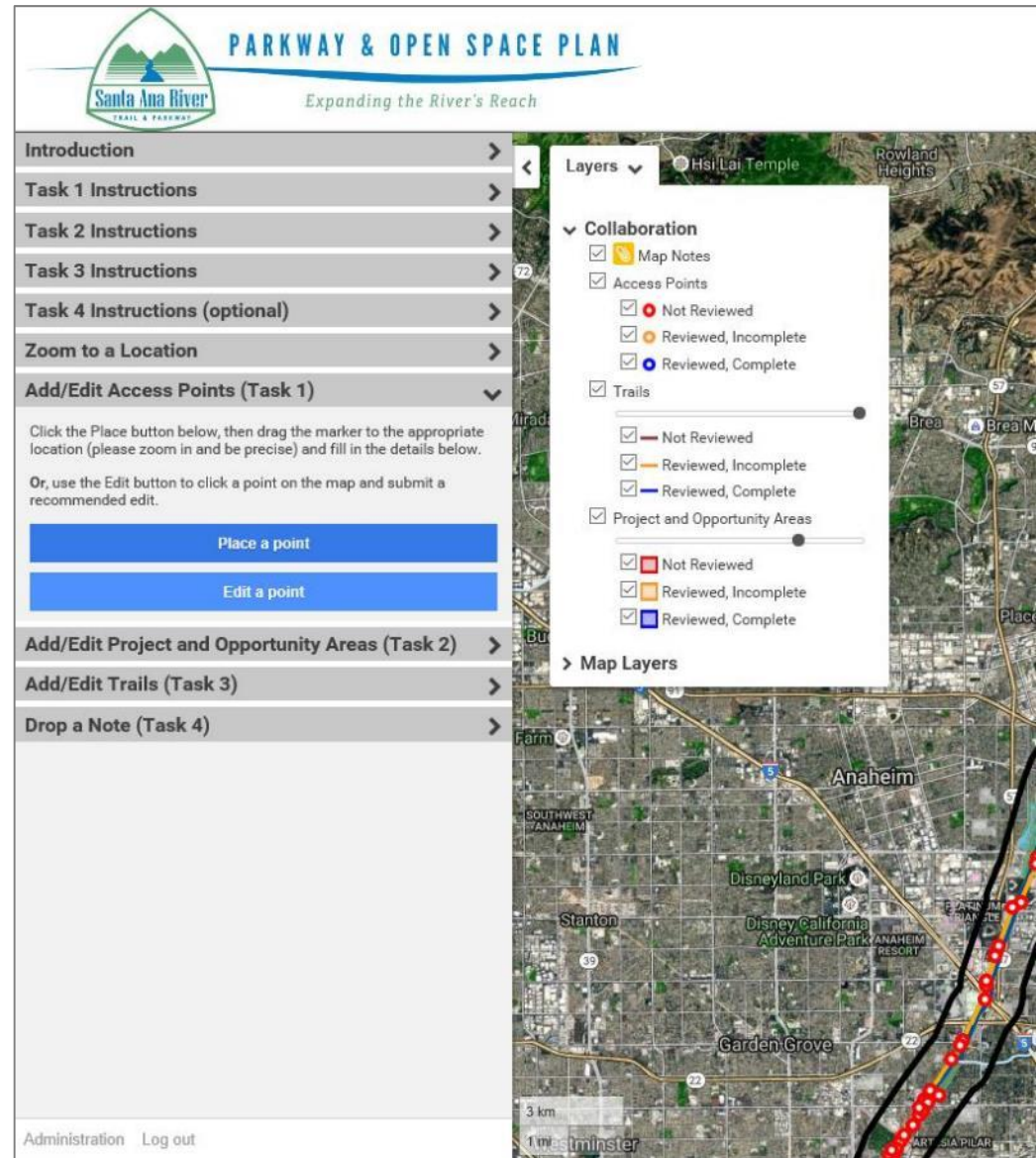
Technical Advisory Committee

- Federal, State, County, City, and nonprofit representation



Online Inventory Portal

- All agencies invited to contribute data
- 26 agencies confirmed or added data over 8 weeks
- Over 400 existing or planned Parkway features (access points, trails, and other project sites) were entered



Santa Ana River Parkway & Open Space Plan

Opportunity Site Map

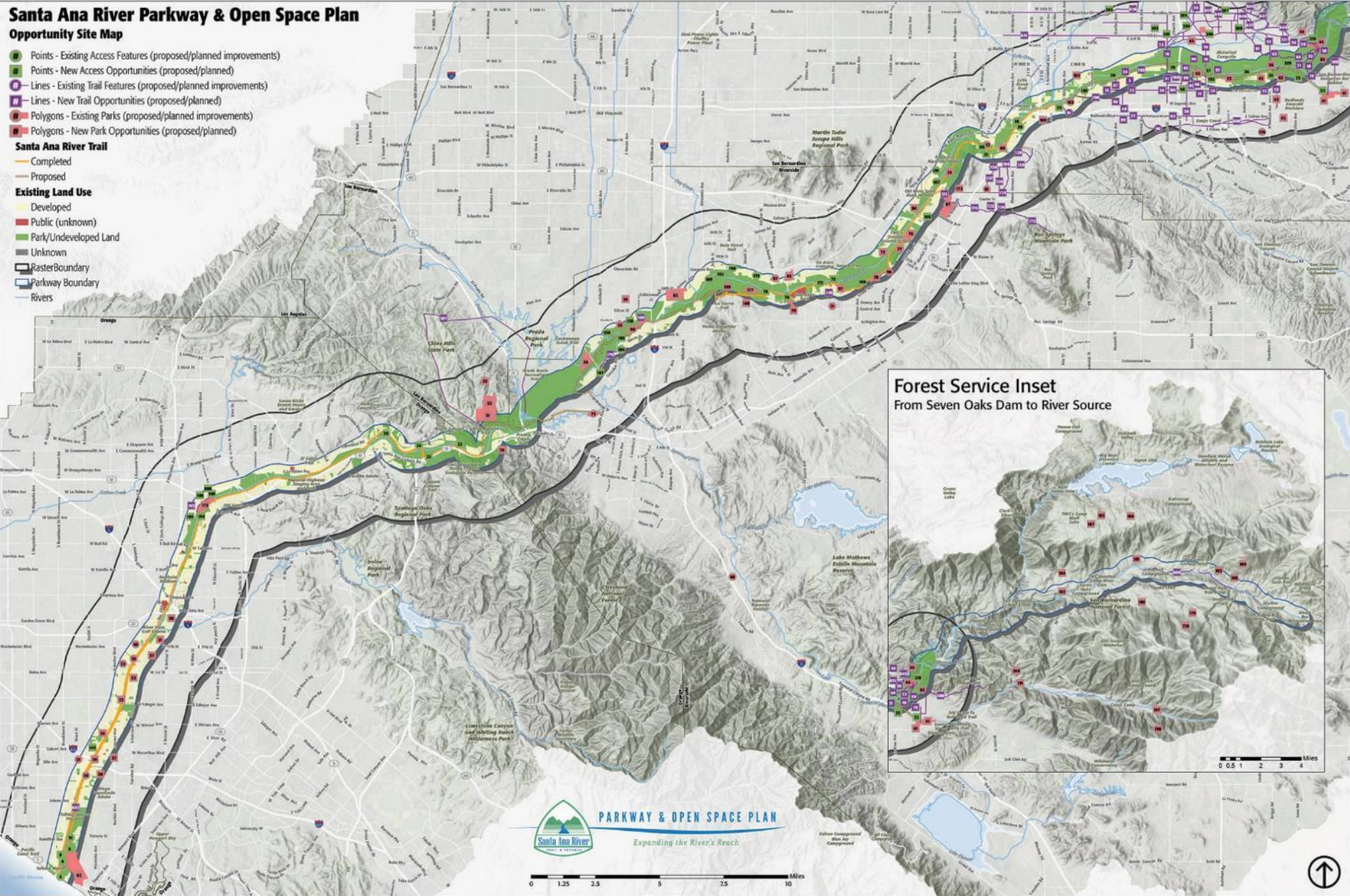
- Points - Existing Access Features (proposed/planned improvements)
- Points - New Access Opportunities (proposed/planned)
- Lines - Existing Trail Features (proposed/planned improvements)
- Lines - New Trail Opportunities (proposed/planned)
- Polygons - Existing Parks (proposed/planned improvements)
- Polygons - New Park Opportunities (proposed/planned)

Santa Ana River Trail

- Completed
- Proposed

Existing Land Use

- Developed
- Public (unknown)
- Park/Undeveloped Land
- Unknown
- Raster Boundary
- Parkway Boundary
- Rivers



PARKWAY & OPEN SPACE PLAN

Expanding the River's Reach

0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles



TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Public Outreach

- Online activities
- Public workshops and pop-up event at Santa Ana River Trail Bike Ride & Festival
- Results shared with TAC



http://www.placeworkscivic... Santa Ana River Parkway ...

Convert Select

Sign in to Microsoft Online... Intranet-Home Product Support Dell US

Santa Ana River Parkway & Open Space Plan

Welcome, C.C. Sign Out

What are your priorities?

The Parkway vision is supported by several guiding principles, including that the *river corridor should provide equitable recreational, educational, and health benefits to all residents and visitors along its length.*

What types of recreation, education and access opportunities do you think should be prioritized? Click and drag the following features to arrange them from high to low importance to you.

Click and drag the features to create a ranked list of your priorities:

↑ HIGHEST PRIORITY

↓ Agriculture or Community Gardens

↓ Overnight Accommodations (such as campgrounds)

↓ Educational Features (Signage, Exhibits, Visitor Center, etc.)

↓ Public Parks and Open Space

↓ Trails and/or Trail Amenities (such as benches and drinking water)

↓ River access

↓ Staging Areas (Parking lot, restroom, etc.)

↓ LOWEST PRIORITY

Add a priority + Add Priority

Share comments about your priorities here.

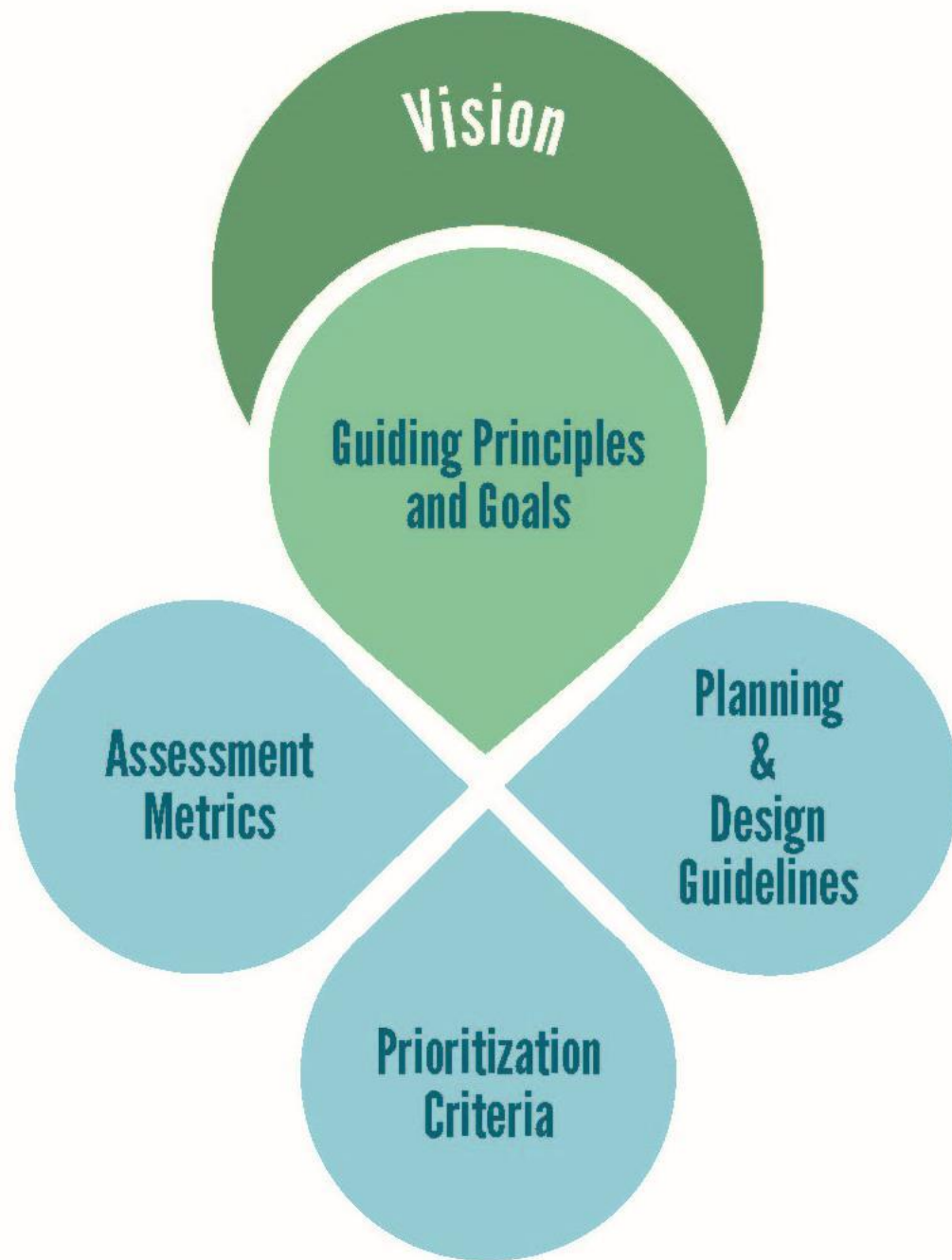
☒ Show name

★ Submit and Continue

[View Existing Responses](#)

Vision and Guiding Principles

- Unifying vision guiding project forward
- Crafted from public responses and discussions with TAC
- Supported development of prioritization tool





The Santa Ana River Parkway is a
regionally celebrated resource...

...that provides varied opportunities for residents and visitors
to **experience the river corridor** along its entire length
while providing necessary **water management functions,**
habitat for a unique diversity of plants and animals,
and **recreation, education, and health benefits.**

TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Guiding Principles



Water

Water is an essential and limited resource that should be carefully managed to maximize its benefit to people, plants, and animals while providing protection from flood flows.



Habitat and Wildlife

Wetland, riparian, and adjacent upland habitats along the river corridor provide multiple environmental and community benefits; these ecosystem functions should be respected, cared for, and conserved.



Education, Recreation, & Access

The river corridor is a resource that should provide equitable recreational, educational, and health benefits to all residents and visitors along its length and inspire sustained stewardship of the resource.



Implementation

Cooperation and collaboration among agencies, organizations, and members of the public is critical to developing the river corridor in a way that maximizes benefits to the natural and human environments and integrates effectively with other planning efforts.

TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Project Prioritization Tool

- Data-driven tool for prioritizing projects using four criteria
- Initial determination of which projects are most likely to contribute to achieving the vision of the SARP&OSP
- Further prioritization to occur prior to implementation
- Project prioritization will occur at regular intervals in the future



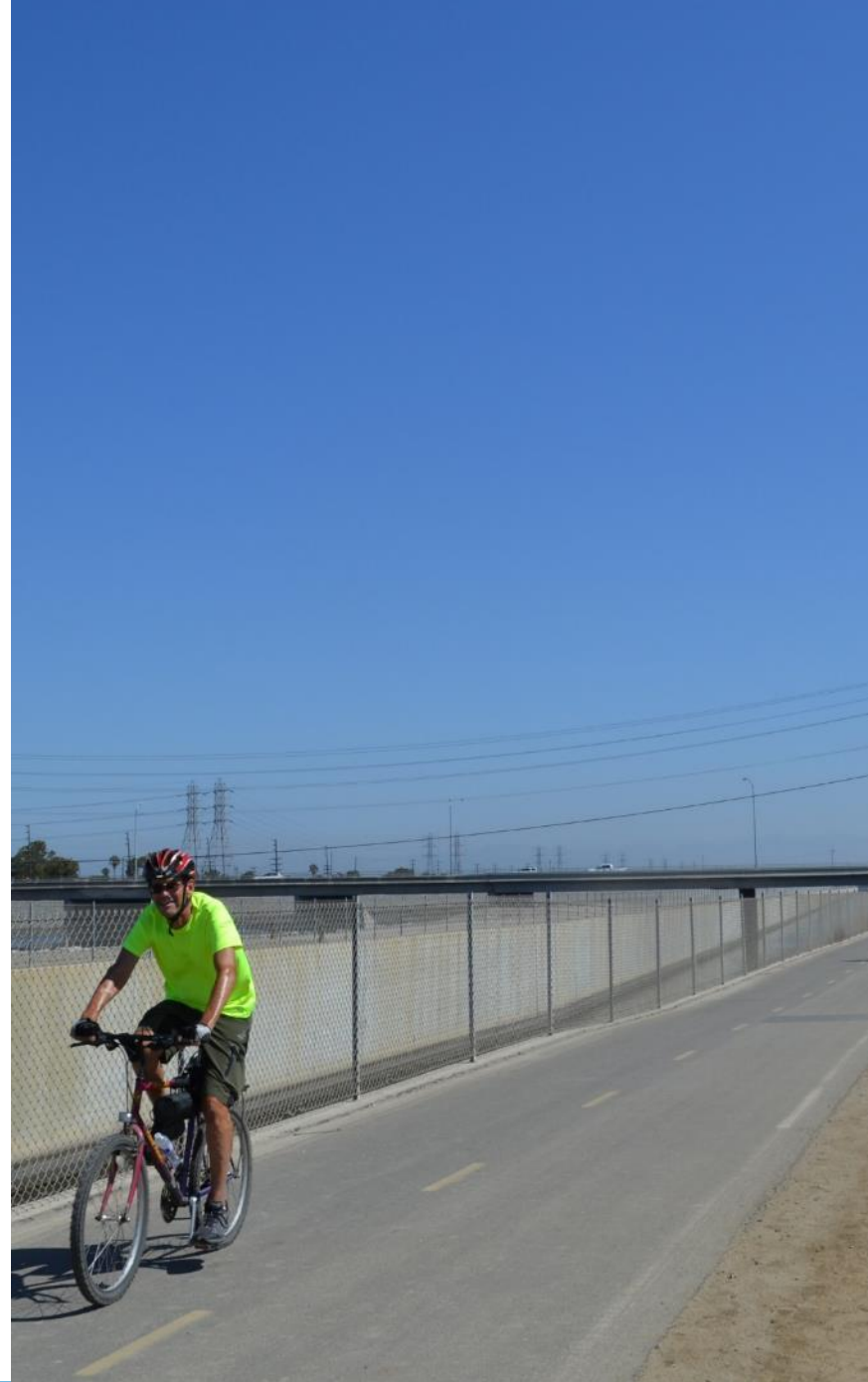
TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Project Prioritization Tool

To what degree does this project help achieve the vision for the SARP&OSP?

Four Criteria:

1. Location Suitability
2. Consistency with Guiding Principles
3. Proximity to River
4. Project Status



TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Project Prioritization Tool

Location Suitability

Is the project located in an area that will physically contribute to its success?

- Each project location was evaluated for:



Water

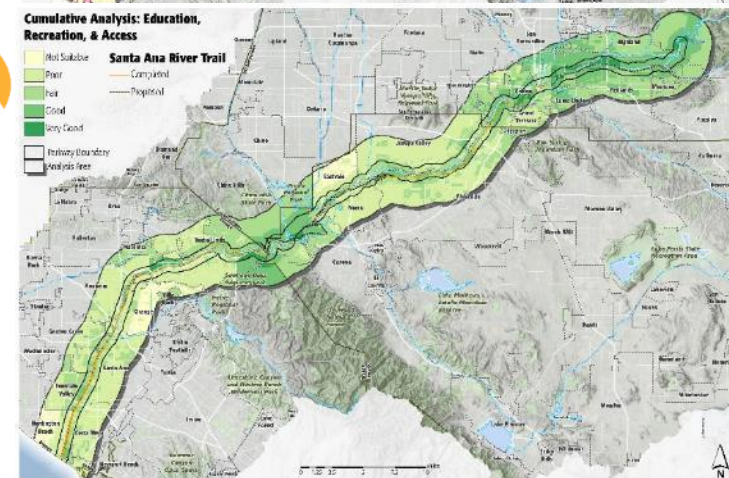
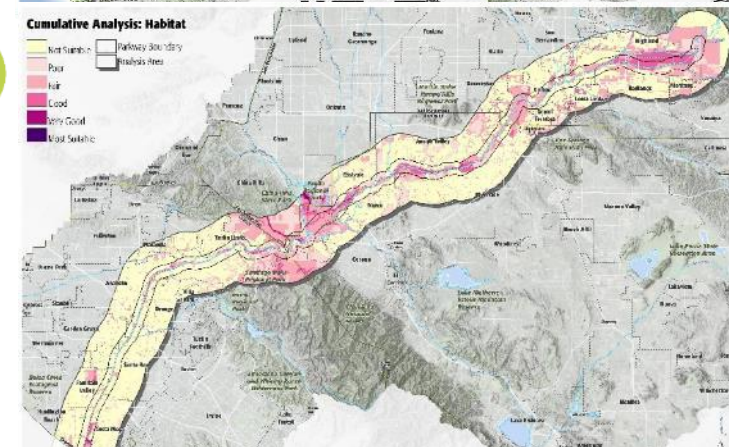
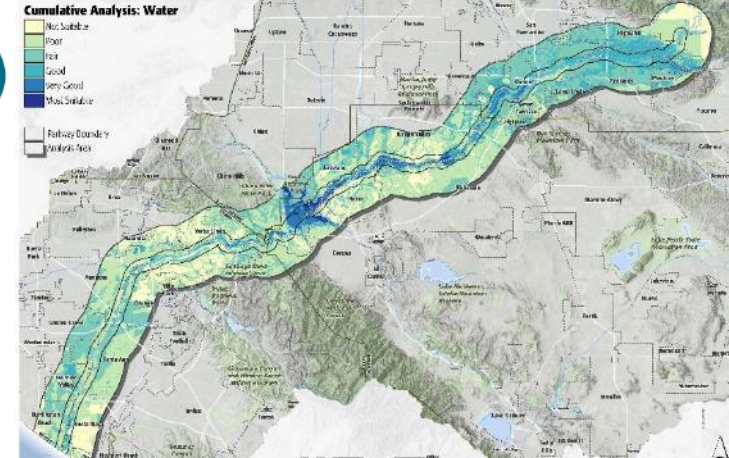


Habitat



Equitable recreational
and educational access

- Scores range from 1-6



TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Project Prioritization Tool

Consistency with Guiding Principles

Is the project consistent with the Guiding Principles of the SARP&OSP?

- Each project was evaluated based on information entered in web portal
- Scored either 6 points or 1 point for each principle



Proximity to River

Is the project close to the river?

Each project was evaluated based on its location in relation to the river

- Scoring:
 - 12 points if within ½ mile
 - 6 points if ½ mile to 1 mile from river
 - 1 point if more than 1 mile from river



TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Project Prioritization Tool

Project Status

Does the project have momentum to move forward?

Each project was evaluated based on information entered in web portal

- Scored either 6 points or 1 point



TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Project Prioritization Tool

Overall Priority Score

Sum of:

- *Location Suitability (LS)* score multiplied by *Consistency with Guiding Principles (GP)* score for each topic area
- Proximity to Santa Ana River score
- Status score

$$\begin{array}{r} (\text{Water LS} \times \text{Water GP}) \\ (\text{Habitat LS} \times \text{Habitat GP}) \\ (\text{Access LS} \times \text{Access GP}) \\ \text{Proximity to River} \\ + \text{Status Score} \\ \hline \textbf{Overall Score} \end{array}$$

TOOLS FOR COLLABORATION

Project Prioritization Tool

- Scores range from 91 to 1 (maximum possible is 126)
- Matrix can be sorted by project geometry, individual score categories, agency

Project	Location Suitability				Guiding Principles				LS x GP Score				Proximity	Project Status	Total Score
Name	Water	Habitat	Equitable Access	TOTAL	Water	Habitat	Equitable Access	TOTAL	Water	Habitat	Equitable Access	TOTAL	Proximity to River	Project Status	Total Score
Trail from Van Buren Bridge to Mission Bridge	5	4	6	15	1	1	6	8	5	4	36	45	12	6	63
Padfic Electric rail bridge and Class I path along P/E ROW	3	1	6	10	1	1	6	8	3	1	36	40	12	6	58
Connection from SA river to Santiago Creek	3	1	6	10	1	1	6	8	3	1	36	40	12	1	53

CURRENT STATUS

Successes of the SARP&OSP

1. Vision & Guiding Principles
2. Database of potential projects and results of public outreach
3. New Policy Advisory Group
4. Technical Advisory Committee
5. Plan Adoption
6. Plan as a Funding Tool
7. Projects Underway



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



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